



RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
of
CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT

THE
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and of the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
and
HOUSING OFFICER

For the year 1972

CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1972-73

Chairman of the Council:

D. LAWRENCE

--

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

D. E. J. WEBB

--

Clerk of the Council:

E. G. COWLEY

--

Chairman of
Housing & Public Health Committee:

D. E. J. WEBB

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF AS AT

31st December 1972

Medical Officer of Health

E. HOPE LAMB, O.S.J., M.B., Ch.B., M.F.C.M., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

T. L. COX, C.S.I.E.J.B., Cert. Meat and Foods,
Cert. Smoke Inspector, F.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

A. G. GARNETT, C.F.H.I.E.B., Cert. Meat and Foods,
Cert. Smoke Inspector, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector

N. J. DURNFORD, D.P.H.I.E.B., M.A.P.H.I.,
M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector

J. E. THEOBALD, D.P.H.I.E.B., M.A.P.H.I.

Technical Assistant

L. W. Rudram

Pest Control Officer

F. D. STROUD

Clerical Staff

MISS P. J. LEWIS

MRS. A. CHLDWICK

Council Offices,
Manor House,
Wootton Bassett,
Wilts.

Telephone -
Wootton Bassett 2421-5

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1972

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CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Manor House,
Wootton Bassett,
Wilts.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett
Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Pike and Gentlemen,

I take pleasure in presenting my report for the year 1972. As I came here in 1964, in time to write the report for 1963, this is my tenth annual report; and since the new Local Authority takes over on 1st April 1974, before the necessary statistical data will be available, it may be my last. If, however, a modified early report should be required, I will be happy to undertake it.

In the year now under report nothing sensational happened. The vital statistics show no unusual trend. Infectious diseases were few, and measles in particular showed a substantial drop almost certainly due to immunization, which has caught on quite well.

On a personal note, you may be interested to know that on 21st July I became a Knight of Grace of the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, International Grand Priory, Knights of Malta.

The wind of change is upon us, and at the time of writing I do not know what my appointment will be under the new Health Service. It may be that I shall be doing the same clinical work for the Area Health Authority as I now do for Wiltshire County Council, and if I find myself still serving you, even less directly, I shall be more than content!

I remain grateful to Mr. Cox, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and his staff for their invaluable help, and may I dare to hope that under the new arrangements Mr. Cox will find himself, and in consequence his staff, in the higher status they so well deserve.

I am also indebted to my newest secretary, Mrs. Anne Chadwick, and the previous one, Miss Pat Lewis, now senior clerk in the Public Health Department, for their unceasing toil. Without Anne's efficient help this report would have taken much longer to prepare.

I have the honour to be,
Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Pike and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

E. HOPE LAMB

Medical Officer of Health

6th July, 1973.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45,911
Number of Parishes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Estimated Mid-Year Population (including Service personnel)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24,730
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1972	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£768,062
Sum represented by One Penny Rate (estimated 1972-73)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£7,797

Population: The figure was supplied with the Vital Statistics by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, General Register Office.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	481
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population, corrected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.4
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Deaths of Infants under one year of age	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Perinatal Deaths (stillbirths and deaths under one week of age)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Neonatal Deaths (deaths under four weeks of age)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Deaths from all causes - male	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	101
- female	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
- total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	199
Death Rate per 1,000 population, corrected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.5

BIRTHS

Live Births

The table below shows the number of legitimate and illegitimate live births in this District together with comparable figures for 1971.

	1971			1972		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	228	217	445	239	218	457
Illegitimate	7	8	15	13	11	24
Total	235	225	460	252	229	481

Live Birth Rate

To allow of comparison with the general population density of women of child-bearing age, the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General has been applied to the crude local birth rate, and gives us a figure rather smaller than the last one, but still greater than the national figure, which itself has fallen.

	1971	1972
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett	21.8	17.4
England and Wales	16.0	14.8

Stillbirths

Once again the number of stillbirths has fallen by two.

	1971			1972		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	3	2	5	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	2	5	2	1	3

Stillbirth Rate

The two fewer stillbirths has brought the local rate down to half the national rate, which has remained static.

	1971	1972
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett	11	6
England and Wales	12	12

DEATHS

Infant Deaths

The number has risen by four, bringing us back to the 1970 figure.

	1971 Total	1972		
		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	3	4	5	9
Illegitimate	2	-	-	-
Total	5	4	5	9

Infant Mortality Rate

As usual, the small rise in infant deaths has led to a numerically higher death rate and put our figure ahead of the national rate.

Infant Mortality Rate	1971	1972
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett	11	19
England and Wales	18	17

Infant Deaths under One Year by Age Groups.

1972	Under 1 week	1 week or more but less than 4 weeks	4 weeks or more but less than 12 months
	6	1	2

Perinatal Mortality Rate

This is the number of stillbirths and deaths of infants under one week of age per 1,000 total still and live births. Owing to the rise in infant deaths under one week old our figure has come nearer to that of England and Wales as a whole.

Perinatal Death Rate	1971	1972
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett	15	19
England and Wales	22	22

Neonatal Mortality Rate

Our deaths under four weeks of age per 1,000 live births has risen nearly fourfold, while the national rate is unchanged.

Neonatal Death Rate	1971	1972
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett	4	15
England and Wales	12	12

Deaths at All Ages.

Cricklade and Wootton Bassett		1971	1972
	Male	115	101
	Female	102	98
	Total	217	199

Death Rate

The area comparability factor has been applied, and the corrected rate has fallen while the national rate has risen.

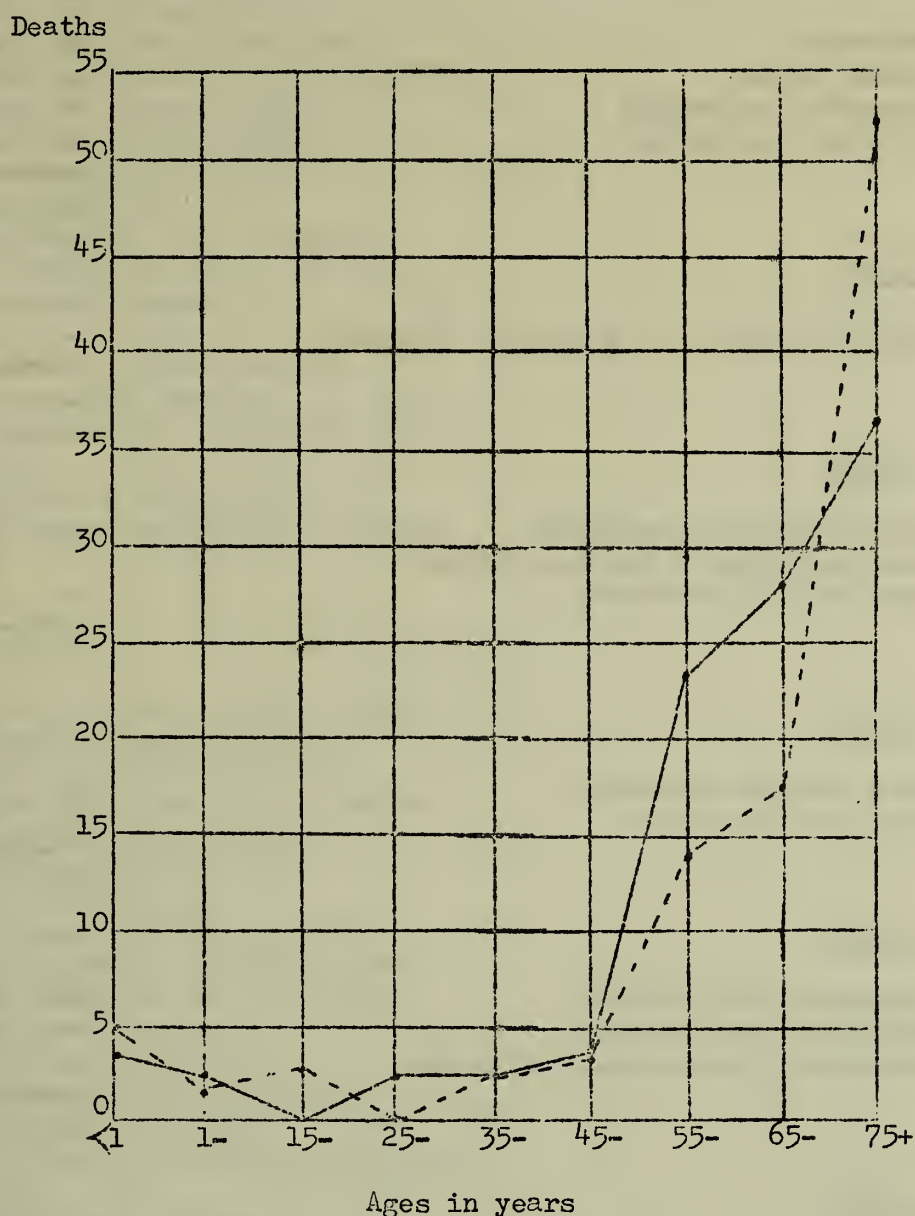
Death Rate	1971	1972
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett	14.7	10.5
England and Wales	11.6	12.1

Deaths in the District during 1972 by Age and Sex

Age at Deaths	Under 4 wks.	4 wks. and under 1 yr.	1-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Total
Male	3	1	3	-	2	2	3	23	28	36	101
Female	4	1	2	3	-	2	3	14	17	52	98

I have reproduced these figures on the next page in the form of a graph.

Deaths in the District during 1972 shown as a Graph



Key

————— Male ----- Female

Apart from a few tragedies in infancy and early adult life, women have continued to outlive men till 75 years of age and over.

Deaths Tabulated by Cause and Age Group

Both the classified causes of death and the figures are taken from the Registrar General's Annual Report, and clearly show the causes of death from infancy to old age.

<u>Under 1 year</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Meningitis	-	1	
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	
Congenital anomalies	-	2	
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	2	
Other causes of perinatal mortality	2	-	
	4	5	9

<u>1 - 4 years</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pneumonia	1	-	
Peptic ulcer	-	1	
Congenital anomalies	1	-	
All other accidents	1	-	
	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 1	4
<u>5 - 14 years</u>			
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	
	<hr/> -	<hr/> 1	1
<u>15 - 24 years</u>			
Other malignant neoplasms	-	1	
Other diseases of nervous system	-	1	
Motor vehicle accidents	-	1	
	<hr/> -	<hr/> 3	3
<u>25 - 34 years</u>			
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	
All other accidents	1	-	
	<hr/> 2	<hr/> -	2
<u>35 - 44 years</u>			
Ischaemic heart disease	2	-	
Cerebrovascular disease	-	1	
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	-	1	
	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 2	4
<u>45 - 54 years</u>			
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	1	-	
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	
Diabetes mellitus	-	1	
Ischaemic heart disease	1	1	
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	-	
	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 3	6
<u>55 - 64 years</u>			
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	-	1	
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	2	
Other malignant neoplasms	1	2	
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	-	
Hypertensive disease	3	-	
Ischaemic heart disease	7	2	
Other forms of heart disease	1	-	
Cerebrovascular disease	3	3	
Other diseases of circulatory system	-	1	
Pneumonia	-	2	
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1	
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	1	-	
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	-	
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	
	<hr/> 23	<hr/> 14	37

<u>65 - 74 years</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	1	-	
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-	
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	1	-	
Other malignant neoplasms	1	-	
Diabetes mellitus	-	1	
Other endocrine etc. diseases	-	2	
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	-	
Hypertensive disease	1	-	
Ischaemic heart disease	8	3	
Other forms of heart disease	1	2	
Cerebrovascular disease	4	1	
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	2	
Pneumonia	5	1	
Bronchitis and emphysema	-	1	
Other diseases of digestive system	1	3	
	28	17	45

75 years and over

Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity etc.	1	-	
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	2	
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	1	2	
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-	
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	
Other malignant neoplasms	-	3	
Diabetes mellitus	1	1	
Other diseases of blood, etc.	-	1	
Other diseases of nervous system	-	2	
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	1	
Hypertensive disease	1	1	
Ischaemic heart disease	11	11	
Other forms of heart disease	2	4	
Cerebrovascular disease	4	12	
Other diseases of circulatory system	3	1	
Pneumonia	6	5	
Bronchitis and emphysema	2	1	
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	1	1	
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	-	2	
All other accidents	-	1	
	36	52	88
Total of all causes	101	98	199

Comments

In 1972 ischaemic heart disease, which includes coronary thrombosis, again proved the greatest killer, even though the number fell some three percent. The disease began to strike from 35 years of age and took the highest tolls from 55 years onwards. The figures were: men 28.7%, women 17.3%, total 23.1%.

In contrast, the cancer rate fell by eight percent, and the male deaths came down at a greater rate than the female deaths, being 16.1% overall, males 15.8% and females 16.3%. The incidence of lung cancer deaths showed a smaller proportion of male deaths, 7%, but an increase in female deaths from 1% to 2%. Have men heeded the warnings about cigarette smoking, while female smokers are just beginning to experience the effects of a later start?

For the past three years deaths due to motor vehicle accidents occurred only in the age group 15 to 24 years. This time there was only one such, while one each was claimed from the age groups 25-34 and 55-64 years. There were two "other accidents", a young man and an old woman.

Of the total deaths, nearly one third of the men and more than half of the women survived to 75 or over.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Notifications of Infectious Diseases by Age Groups and Quarters of the Year

Ages in Years	Under 1		1-		2-		3-		4-		5-9		10-14		15-24		25+		Not Known		1st Qrt. Total		2nd Qrt. Total		3rd Qrt. Total		4th Qrt. Total		Grand Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Dysentery											2										1				1				2	
Food Poisoning	1												1	1	1	2	1	1	1				1	2	2		1	1	4	3
Infectious Hepatitis													1	2							1	2							1	2
Measles			2	1			1				3	5				1	2								4	6	1	4	5	10
Meningitis													1										1						1	
Scarlet Fever									1		2		1		1						3						1	1	1	4
Tuberculosis													1		1		1				1		1						2	

Geographical Distribution of Notifications

The following table shows the distribution of notifications of infectious diseases in 1972 according to parishes.

	Ashton Keynes	Braydon	Broad Town	Clyffe Pypard	Cricklade	Latton	Leigh	Lydiard Millicent	Lydiard Tregoze	Lyneham	Marston Meysey	Pirton	Tockenham	Wootton Bassett	Total
Dysentery					1									1	2
Food poisoning										4				3	7
Infectious Hepatitis										1				2	3
Measles		7			6		1							1	15
Meningitis														1	1
Scarlet Fever					1					2		1		1	5
Tuberculosis												1		1	2

Dysentery - These were isolated cases, coming at different times of the year, and no organism was found nor were there any secondary cases.

Food Poisoning - Of the seven cases notified only one produced a causative organism, salmonella enteritidis, and in only one instance were two members of the same family affected.

Infectious Hepatitis - The number of cases has dropped considerably from previous years since the disease first became notifiable. In no instances has there been spread of the infection within families. One of the cases, a child, was very ill and died in a London hospital.

Measles - From 109 cases in 1971 there has been a truly dramatic drop to 15 in 1972. Such a fall could not be explained away by the former biennial low incidences, and must be attributable to the immunization campaign which is now well under way.

Meningitis - The young man who contracted acute meningitis made a full recovery in hospital.

Scarlet Fever - There were about the same number of infections as in the previous year, so no significant rise has occurred.

Tuberculosis - Two cases of primary pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year, and serve to illustrate that the disease is still with us. Indeed, it is said to remain one of the commonest notifiable infections in Britain, with a rate exceeded only by dysentery, infective jaundice, measles and whooping cough. By comparison, therefore, our figure is low.

Mobile Chest X-Ray Service

I am indebted to Dr. R. T. James, Medical Director of the Mobile Chest X-Ray Service, Reading, for the following figures obtained from visits of the Mobile Unit to Wootton Bassett during 1972.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of patients referred by general practitioners	125	113	238
Number referred to Chest Clinic	4	2	6
Diagnosis of Cases referred:			
Tuberculosis - treatment or close supervision	1	-	1
Tuberculosis - no further action	-	-	-
Carcinoma	2	2	4
Bronchitis, emphysema	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	1	-	1

DISEASES NOT NOTIFIABLE

I received from certain head teachers notice of 20 cases of chickenpox, two cases of impetigo, four cases of German measles and 47 cases of mumps. As usual I would emphasize that these notices are not necessarily based upon medical certificates, so are only an indication of the prevalence of these diseases.

IMMUNIZATIONS

As always I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following immunization figures relating to our District.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Measles and Poliomyelitis

		Children born in years					1963 -67	1957 -62
		1972	1971	1970	1969	1968		
Primary Imms. completed during 1972	Diph.	188	198	17	1	1	2	1
	Wh. Cough	188	196	16	1	-	-	-
	Tetanus	188	191	17	1	1	3	4
	Measles	-	263	66	23	16	35	-
	Polio.	188	194	18	1	-	-	-
Reinforcing imms. given in 1972	Diph.	-	121	185	19	112	293	4
	Wh. Cough	-	97	139	11	3	6	-
	Tetanus	-	121	185	19	113	296	14
	Polio.	-	120	161	16	112	306	9

Smallpox*

The table below shows the number of primary vaccinations against smallpox carried out in this area in 1972 according to ages.

Age Group	Months				Years		
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1	2-4	5-15
Vaccinations	-	-	-	-	2	4	7
Revaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	4	15

* Vaccination was discontinued as a routine measure in early childhood from September 1971.

Primary Diphtheria Immunization State of Babies

	1970 Babies	1970 Babies immunized to 31.12.71	%
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett R.D.C.	408	327	80.1
	Children born in the Rural District in 1971 and living there on 31.12.71	Number of these babies immunized to 31.12.72	%
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett R.D.C.	427	374	87.5

The County figure, excluding Swindon Borough, is 86.9%

SOCIO-MEDICAL PROBLEMS

Wootton Bassett Judo Club

While I was off ill Dr. Lycett was asked by one of our County Councillors about the possibility of children at the local Judo Club contracting infection on their bare feet from the mats. He referred the matter to me and when I returned to duty I had a look at the premises during a judo meeting. From what I saw I came to the conclusion that the most likely sources of infection were the floors of the changing rooms, hall and toilets, where the children were apt to walk about in bare feet. Accordingly I advised that the ideal preventive measure was to bathe the feet both before and after judo and when not actually engaged in judo to wear slippers or gym shoes, whether to stand around or to leave the gymnasium. I added that it was essential that each person had his own towel and did not share it with anyone else. In conclusion I observed that when the new swimming pool, showers and recreation hall were completed they would better meet requirements and so might be considered as a new venue for the Judo Club.

Chemical Fume in a Shop

On visiting a local shoemaker I noticed a strong smell of volatile organic chemicals and found it came from the back workshop. With the consent of the shoemaker I inspected the workshop and found that it was a small room with a sloping roof, evidently under a staircase, and had no ventilation other than the access door from the shop. As a result I visited the landlord and advised him on a friendly and informal basis that in the interest of the health of the shoemaker, his employees and customers, there should be an extraction system to remove the fume and ventilate the workshop. He agreed to see to this, and before long it was done, though under the tenancy agreement the shoemaker had to foot the bill.

A Filthy Cottage

During April the condition of a certain cottage was brought to our attention by a social worker at Princess Margaret Hospital. The owner/occupier of the cottage had been admitted some time before to the Hospital with a broken leg resulting from a fall. He had been living alone in the cottage for at least 10 years, during which he had spent some time in a mental hospital, for the rest living as a recluse with very little contact with his neighbours or the outside world in general. The social worker was trying to arrange for the man's return to home but the state of the cottage made it impossible. This I confirmed, then wrote to the Area Welfare Officer suggesting that it was up to the Social Welfare Department, under their new responsibilities, to find him alternative accommodation. A letter crossed mine in the post stating that the man was not physically fit enough for admission to a County residential home for the elderly, but after seeing him in hospital I wrote again pointing out that his mental state should be taken into account. I received a reply informing me that he had been admitted to Roundway Hospital and that it was unlikely that he would recover sufficiently to return to the community. A fortnight later I received a message that he had died.

Suspected Chemical Poisoning

Towards the end of June a general practitioner told me that he had been dealing with an outbreak of stomach trouble which he thought might be due to an agricultural fertilizer. I contacted the Managing Director of the firm supplying the fertilizer and he kindly gave me full information about the substance. I also visited the farm and found that one young man had been ill. The fertilizer seemed most unlikely to have caused the man's symptoms, either by its nature or the mode of its distribution, and I advised the doctor accordingly.

A Wandering Lady

During the Autumn the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector reported to me that a village postmistress had spoken to him about an old lady who was said to be wandering in her mind and giving much worry to her unmarried son, a farm labourer, with whom she lived. I referred the matter to the local Social Services Officer and also informed the Health Visitor, from whom I subsequently learned that the son had refused to let his mother go into a County Welfare Home and strongly resented what he termed interference. The main thing was, the lady's name was now down in the Welfare books, and the Welfare people would step in if there were any further trouble.

OUTLINE OF THE MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

Wiltshire County Council

As Local Health Authority and Local Education Authority the County Council provides the following services:

(a) As a Health Authority

- Ambulances
- Care and Aftercare
- Cervical Cytology
- Chiropody
- Domestic Help
- Health Visiting
- Home Midwifery
- Home Nursing
- Immunization
- Infant Welfare and Care of Mothers

(b) As an Education Authority

- Ascertainment of Handicapped Pupils
- Audiometry
- Consultants' Services
- Medical Inspection of Pupils
- Remedial Instruction
- School Dental Service
- Speech Therapy

The County Medical Officer of Health is also the Principal School Medical Officer, which integrates the two services.

The County Council also provides facilities for Family Planning Clinics and deals with the health educational side of Venereal Diseases, together with tracing of contacts and follow-up of defaulters.

Wiltshire Executive Council

The Executive Council is responsible for the services of:

Dentists
General Practitioners
Oculists
Opticians

Regional Hospital Boards

The hospitals serving residents in this area are under the Oxford or the South Western Regional Hospital Board. There are general hospitals at:

Chippenham
Cirencester
Malmesbury
Savernake (Marlborough)
Swindon

Special cases can be referred to Bristol or Oxford.

Mobile Chest X-Ray Service

The Service is based at 10 Gun Street, Reading. The Mobile X-Ray Unit comes to Wootton Bassett and operates at the Comprehensive School on Mondays at 12 noon. Cases are referred for the purposes of diagnosis or medical examination.

Laboratory Services

The Pathological Laboratory at Princess Margaret Hospital in Swindon carries out by special arrangement all routine tests for the Public Health Department in this District. The services of the Public Health Laboratories in Bath, Bristol, Oxford and London are also available.

Hospital Maternity Cases

Maternity cases are admitted to:

Princess Margaret Hospital, Swindon
Princess Alexandra's Royal Air Force Hospital, Wroughton
Cirencester Maternity Hospital
Malmesbury Hospital
Greenways Maternity Hospital, Chippenham

Premature Baby Units

Units are located at:

Princess Margaret Hospital, Swindon
Princess Alexandra's Royal Air Force Hospital, Wroughton

Mental Cases

Cases of mental disorder are admitted to:

Roundway Hospital, Devizes
The Seymour Clinic, Swindon

Smallpox Cases

Cases would be admitted to the following special hospitals:

Ham Green Hospital, near Bristol
Weyhill Hospital, Andover

Venereal Diseases

These are treated in:

The Special Clinic, Swindon
Salisbury General Infirmary
Royal United Hospital, Bath
St. Martin's Hospital, Bath

Medical Loan Depots

Address of Depot

Officer in Charge

Cricklade

26 Calcutt Street

Miss M. Ashley,
26 Calcutt Street,
Cricklade.

Purton

70 Reids Piece

Mrs. A. E. Legg,
70 Reids Piece,
Purton.

Wootton Bassett

23 Coxstalls

Miss E. M. Ould,
23 Coxstalls,
Wootton Bassett.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

AND

HOUSING OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1972

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND

HOUSING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1972

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND
HOUSING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1972

August, 1973.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Pike and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my tenth Annual Report on the work carried out by the environmental health and housing section of the department. The Medical Officer's report precedes this report and I would like to say once more, in what must be the penultimate report before Dr. Hope Lamb leaves local government, how much we have enjoyed doing our part to support him in his district duties and at the same time to thank him for his interest and encouragement in our duties.

Allied to general environmental health duties the department has dealt with the housing officer duties in the public sector and has also been the managing team for refuse collection, salvage, cesspool emptying service and abandoned vehicles monitoring and clearance.

The link which housing duties in the public sector provides in the overall raising of housing standards by dovetailing with work on unfit housing has again been invaluable. The other tasks on refuse collection, salvage, cesspool emptying and removal of vehicles all assist in the task of safeguarding the environment and the control within the public health service helps to maintain the standard direct.

No apology is made for the somewhat tabulated form of the report which follows quite closely to previous reports for the research value of the continued progress that one can see over the years forms the encouragement for sustained effort in all fields of activities laid upon us by our duties.

In conclusion my thanks to the team and for their responsible approach to their tasks. They join me in thanking all other officers of the Council for their willing cooperation and the Councillors for their concern and help especially during periods of pressure.

I have the honour to be,

Mrs. Pike and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. L. COX

Chief Public Health Inspector
& Housing Officer.

HOUSING

Number of New Houses erected during the year

(a) By the Local Authority (Including flats)	...	...	...	...	36
(b) By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	243
(c) By conversion of Houses into flats	...	...	...	...	0
(d) By the Air Ministry for Married Quarters	...	...	...	...	0

Inspections of Dwellings during the year

(i) Inspected for housing defects under the Public Health Acts	...	...	...	7
(ii) Inspected for housing defects under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	283
(iii) Number of dwellings found to be unfit for habitation	...	...	...	10
(iv) Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects fit for habitation	...	...	...	147

Remedy of Defects by Informal Action

(a) Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action under Public Health Acts	...	...	7
(b) Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action under Housing Acts	...	...	129

Action under Statutory Powers (Public Health and Housing Acts)

A. Public Health Acts

Number of dwellings where formal notices were served	...	...	Nil
Number of dwellings made fit as result of formal notices	...	...	Nil
(a) By owners	...	...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	Nil

B. Housing Act 1957

Number of dwellings where notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	Nil
Number of dwellings rendered fit as result of formal notices	...	...	Nil
(a) By owners	...	...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	Nil
Number of Demolition Orders made	...	...	Nil
Number of houses demolished	...	...	5
Number of Undertakings accepted	...	...	22
Number of Undertakings completed	...	...	15
Number of Closing Orders Made	...	...	6
Number of dwellings closed as the result of Closing Orders	...	...	11

Overcrowding

Number of cases of overcrowding discovered during 1972	...	...	8
Number of cases of overcrowding brought forward from 1971	...	...	2
Number of cases of overcrowding abated during the year	...	...	7
Number of cases of overcrowding on December 31st 1972	...	...	3

House Purchase and Housing Act 1959

Grants were made under the above Act in 50 cases, 10 standard and 40 discretionary, a decrease of 3 standard and a decrease of 26 discretionary grants.

The value of the grants were - Standard £2,731.50, Discretionary £34,826 a total of £37,557.50, and a decrease from last year of £16,342. The average grants per house were - Standard £273.15 and Discretionary £870.50.

The above figures relate to schemes completed during the year.

Set out overleaf are particulars of applications received during the year.

1. Standard Grants

Number of applications (a) Owner/Occupied	12 - Approved	0 - Refused
(b) Tenanted Houses	1 - Approved	0 - Refused

Amenities provided during the year:

(a) Fixed Bath/Shower	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
(b) Wash Hand Basin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
(c) Sink	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
(d) Hot & Cold Water to Bath/Shower	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
(e) Hot & Cold Water to Wash Hand Basin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
(f) Hot & Cold Water to Sink	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
(g) W.C.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
(h) Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(i) Septic Tank or Cesspool	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
(j) Extension	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

2. Improvement Grants (Discretionary)

Number of Applications approved	...	...	...	...	...	82
Number of Applications refused	...	...	...	...	...	0

Of the improvement grant schemes proposed during the year, 36 were owner/occupied and 46 tenanted. It is pleasing to note that the figure for tenanted properties rose above that of owner/occupied properties and it may be that changed rent legislation is beginning to take effect.

Rent Act 1957

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received during the year. The last application was made in June 1960.

Housing Act 1969 - Qualification Certificates

Seven applications were made during the year, four were granted and three were refused.

Housing Applications

The number of applicants on the main housing list at 31st December 1972 rose to 203, but the total on the preliminary list remained at 89 giving an overall total of 292 as against the 1971 total of 233.

On the list of applicants for aged persons accommodation the total on the main list rose to 146, but the total on the preliminary list fell to 36 giving an overall total of 182 an increase of 25 over the previous year.

Applicants on the engaged couples' list rose to 28 an increase of 6.

It should be noted that the preliminary waiting lists were removed from all parishes except Votton Bassett, where it was reduced to one year before an applicant moved to the main list.

Number of check visits ... 647

Main Housing Lists

Parish	No. of Applicants on 31.12.72		Total No. of Applicants		Increase (+) Decrease (-)
	who are House- holders	who are in rooms	On Dec. 31/72	On Dec. 31/71	
Ashton Keynes	2	2	4	7	- 3
Braydon	-	-	-	-	-
Broad Town	2	1	3	2	+ 1
Clyffe Pypard	-	-	-	2	- 2
Cricklade	37	14	51	26	+ 25
Latton	-	1	1	2	- 1
Leigh	-	-	-	3	- 3
Lydiard Millicent	5	1	6	7	- 1
Lydiard Tregoze	5	-	5	3	+ 2
Lyneham	21	4	25	20	+ 5
Marston Meysey	1	-	1	1	-
Purton	22	9	31	16	+ 15
Tockenham	-	-	-	-	-
Wootton Bassett	63	13	76	55	+ 21
	158	45	203	144	+ 45

Sizes of Families of Applicants

Man, Wife and						
No Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 Children	5 Children	Over 5 Children
58	63	39	22	10	6	5
Percentage of the Total						
29.57	32.03	14.98	11.59	5.42	3.45	2.96

Applications from Engaged Couples

	Dec. 1972	Dec. 1971
Ashton Keynes	1	1
Cricklade	5	5
Latton	-	4
Lyneham	2	-
Purton	5	4
Wootton Bassett	15	8
	<u>28</u>	<u>22</u>

Applications for Aged Persons' Dwellings - 31.12.72.
Main List

Parish	Married Couples	Single Persons Widows and Widowers	Applicants in Accommodation other than Council Houses or in rooms	Applicants who are Council House tenants	Total
Ashton Keynes	1	1	1	1	2
Broad Town	-	1	1	-	1
Clyffe Pypard	1	1	1	1	2
Cricklade	25	12	25	12	37
Latton	-	1	1	-	1
Lydiard Millicent	1	1	2	-	2
Lydiard Tregcze	2	2	2	2	4
Lyneham	2	5	6	1	7
Marston Meysey	2	-	1	1	2
Purton	17	27	37	7	44
Wootton Bassett	24	20	33	11	44
	75	71	110	36	146

Housing Application - One Year Preliminary List - 31.12.72.

Parish	No. of Applicants		Total No. of applicants	O	MO	No. of applicants who have children						
	House	Rooms				None	1	2	3	4	5	5+
Wootton Bassett	74	15	89			34	21	14	10	9	1	-
	74	15	89			34	21	14	10	9	1	-

Applications for Aged Persons' Dwellings - One Year Preliminary List - 31.12.72.

Parish	Married Couples	Single Persons Widows and Widowers	Applicants in Accommodation other than Council Houses or in rooms	Applicants who are Council House Tenants	Total
Wootton Bassett	12	24	28	8	36
	12	24	28	8	36

Provision of New Houses

The number of new houses completed totalling 279 was an increase over the previous year, but again the greatest growth was in the parishes of Cricklade and Wootton Bassett. This year the figure for Cricklade exceeded that for Wootton Bassett by 35 units of accommodation.

Houses erected during the year

Parish	Council Houses, Flats and aged Persons' Dwellings	Private Houses and Flats	Total
Ashton Keynes	-	3	3
Braydon	-	-	-
Broad Town	-	1	1
Clyffe Pypard	-	-	-
Cricklade	26	112	138
Latton	6	-	6
Leigh	-	-	-
Lydiard Millicent	-	8	8
Lydiard Tregoze	-	-	-
Lyneham	4	-	4
Marston Meysey	-	-	-
Purton	-	15	15
Tockenham	-	1	1
Wootton Bassett	-	103	103
	36	243	279

No Air Ministry houses were erected during the year at Lyneham.

Number of Houses

The following table shows the number of houses in the district on the 31st December, 1972. 5 Houses have been demolished during the year. The number of private and council houses in each parish is set out.

Parish	No. of Private Houses & Flats	No. of Council Houses Including Aged Persons' Dwellings and Flats			% of Houses owned by Local Authority	Total number of Houses and flats
		Erected pre-war	Erected post-war	Total		
Ashton Keynes	314	16	40	56	15.135	370
Braydon	25	-	-	-	-	25
Broad Town	130	16	26	42	24.418	172
Clyffe Pypard	92	14	10	24	20.68	116
Cricklade	805	21	225	246	22.45	1,051
Latton	131	2	9	11	7.746	142
Leigh	71	8	28	36	33.64	107
Lydiard Millicent	389	26	27	53	11.99	442
Lydiard Tregoze	151	7	10	17	10.119	168
Lyneham	*1,188	38	59	97	7.548	*1,285
Marston Meysey	56	6	9	15	21.13	71
Purton	1,055	76	158	234	18.15	1,289
Tockenham	78	-	4	4	4.878	82
Wootton Bassett	1,885	71	550	621	24.62	2,522
	*6,381	301	1,155	1,456	18.577	*7,837

*Includes 964 Air Ministry houses.

Types of Council Houses (including Aged Persons' Dwellings and Flats)

Parish	Traditional	Airey	Reema	Orlit	Unity	Swedish Timber	Wool-away
Ashton Keynes	42	14	-	-	-	-	-
Braydon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Broad Town	34	8	-	-	-	-	-
Clyffe Pypard	22	-	-	-	-	2	-
Cricklade	155	12	-	-	46	-	33
Latton	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leigh	6	14	-	-	16	-	-
Lydiard Millicent	53	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lydiard Tregoze	9	-	-	-	-	8	-
Lyneham	87	10	-	-	-	-	-
Marston Meysey	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purton	178	16	-	-	40	-	-
Tockenham	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wootton Bassett	439	49	14	44	22	-	53
	1,055	123	14	44	124	10	86

Total number of Council Houses - 1,456

The percentage of the various types of council houses (including bungalows and flats) is as follows:-

	%
Traditional	72.45
Airey	8.45
Reema	0.96
Orlit	3.02
Unity	8.52
Swedish Timber	0.7
Woolaway	5.9

Aged Persons' Dwellings (including Grouped Accommodation & OAP Flatlets)

Parish	1 Bedroom	2 Bedrooms	Total
Ashton Keynes	2	11	13
Broad Town	2	4	6
Cricklade	35	20	55
Latton	2	2	4
Lydiard Millicent	2	6	8
Lyneham	15	9	24
Marston Meysey	2	2	4
Purton	38	22	60
Wootton Bassett	54	73	127
	152	149	301

The figures given in the above table are included in the table showing the type of council houses. Aged Persons' dwellings account for 20.67% of the total housing accommodation provided by the Council.

Accommodation Provided by Council Houses

Parish	4 Bedrooms	3 Bedrooms	2 Bedrooms	Total
Ashton Keynes	2	41	-	43
Broad Town	-	36	-	36
Clyffe Pypard	-	23	-	24
Cricklade	4	144	29	177
Latton	-	5	-	5
Leigh	-	36	-	36
Lydiard Millicent	-	41	4	45
Lydiard Tregoze	-	17	-	17
Lyneham	3	66	4	73
Marston Meysey	-	11	-	11
Purton	2	163	8	173
Tockenham	-	4	-	4
Wootton Bassett	13	392	13	418
	25	979	58	1,062

In addition there are 75 General Purpose flats in Wootton Bassett, 73 with 2 bedrooms and 2 with 1 bedroom, 13 General Purpose flats in Cricklade, 12 with two bedrooms and 1 with 1 bedroom, 2 General Purpose flats at Latton, 2 with 2 bedrooms, plus 3 3 bedroomed Wardens' flats at Grouped Accommodation.

	Traditional Houses Flats				New Traditional Houses & Flats		Traditional Aged Persons' Dwellings (bungalows) & OAP Flats		New Traditional Aged Persons' Dwellings (bungalows) & OAP Flats	
	Bedrooms				Bedrooms		Bedrooms		Bedrooms	
	4	3	2	1	3	2	2	1	2	1
Pre-war	11	286	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-war	14	349	99	3	348	45	141	152	8	-
	25	635	99	3	348	45	141	152	8	-

Inspection of Council Houses

Surveillance by detailed inspection of council houses by public health inspectors continued and conditions recorded on 212 houses during the year. A further 127 were visited in connection with complaints regarding repairs. Attention to complaints on other matters necessitated inspections to 102 other houses and general visits on all sorts of matters totalled 1,112. The Technical Assistant on housing dealt with the majority of matters under tenancy conditions and also has been a tower of strength to the wardens of the three grouped accommodation units on day to day problems. These units have all been maintained in a first class condition and I would like to take this opportunity of paying tribute to the work of all three wardens.

Sale of Council Houses

Twenty-five council houses were sold during the year as against eleven sold in the previous year.

Reletting of Council Houses

Forty-one houses and general purpose flats and seventeen bungalows and OAP flats were relet during the year constituting a useful relief value for emergency cases.

Exchange of Tenancies

Eight exchanges took place from district to district and within the district during the year following agreement by the authorities concerned. Mutual exchanges of this kind help with the problem of mobility of labour.

Parish	Houses and Flats re-let				Aged Persons' Dwellings re-let		Total re-let
	4-bed	3-bed	2-bed	1-bed	2-bed	1-bed	
Ashton Keynes	1	3	-	-	1	1	6
Broad Town	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Clyffe Pypard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cricklade	1	4	4	-	-	-	9
Leigh	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Lyneham	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Purton	-	4	-	-	1	4	9
Wootton Bassett	-	7	3	1	7	5	23
	2	23	7	1	9	10	52

New Council Accommodation let during 1972

New Council accommodation completed during the year was confined to three parishes only. At Latton six flats were built comprising four aged persons' flats and two general purpose flats. At Cricklade Phase II Parsonage Farm was completed the units during the year being 8 x 3 bedroom houses, 12 x 2 bedroom flats and 5 x 1 bedroom aged persons' flats and 1 x 1 GP flat, whilst at Bradenstoke 4 x 1 bedroom aged persons' flats were completed. Total completions for the year were 36 units. At the end of the year Phase III Parsonage Farm, Cricklade and Phase I Showfield, Wootton Bassett, had commenced with further schemes at Lyneham, Purton and Lydiard Tregoze planned for commencement in 1973.

Case Conferences - Care of Children

Regular attendance was maintained at each quarterly case conference organised by the Social Services Department of the County Council. In my opinion they continue to be very valuable both to district and county offices and I feel sure they lead to many problems being solved and in some cases prevented. I feel that in this part of the County more Part III accommodation should be available for there are many cases on eviction who will not split, seeing this need this authority has given instructions for the purchase when possible of 8 units of half-way housing accommodation but on each occasion when a purchase seemed likely the authority found itself out priced by private purchasers bidding above district valuer's valuation.

One must pay tribute to the contribution made to the work of these conferences by the N.S.P.C.C. inspector whose long contact and knowledge of some cases has been invaluable.

Council House Garden Competition

I am pleased to report that it was possible once more to organise a garden competition on the same lines as previous years. It was necessary to secure the services of a new senior judge and again it was possible to secure the services of a professional. He visited every property on the preliminary judging and produced an excellent report and I feel sure many of the best tenants caught his enthusiasm and also with his keen approach to the task was able to encourage a number of beginners.

Council Garages

This is the third year that the department has been responsible for the Council's stock of garages and 171 visits were necessary during the year on inspection and administration. Surveys were also carried out on sites without garages to assess need which mounts each year as more and more tenants acquire vehicles for work or leisure.

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Nuisances

Number of nuisances discovered	25
Number of nuisances abated	24
Number of re-inspections made for the purpose				113

During the year it was necessary to serve one statutory notice to abate a nuisance and this was achieved without recourse to the court for a nuisance order. Of the nuisances abated some were a progression from the previous year on work requested to abate nuisances in that year but completed in 1972 and this is always unavoidable where problems arise.

Verminous Premises

The wide ranging demand for the services of the Pests Control Officer is best illustrated by the following tabulation of the types of insects and small animals dealt with during the year:- Ants, carpet beetles, cockroaches, bats, beetles, earwigs, flies, fleas, lice, red spider and wasps. He refers to the inspectors when particular difficulties are encountered. Regular fly control is maintained on the refuse tips but under extreme weather conditions control can be difficult and the coming of incineration will be welcome in this respect.

Number of visits to verminous premises .. 153

Dysentery

12 faecal specimens were taken during 1972. 19 visits were made in connection with the taking of these specimens and the necessary investigations but as can be seen from the figures, which are for the whole year, the situation was never out of control.

Infectious Diseases

12 visits were made in connection with infectious diseases.

Drainage and Sewerage

Drainage from 266 houses were added to public sewers during the year.

Number of houses and flats served by W.Cs. and draining to cesspits and/or septic tanks	...	...	...	...	1423
Number of houses served by pail closets and draining to cesspits, etc.	...				90
Total number of houses and flats so drained	...	...	...	...	1513
Total number of houses draining to small sewage installations	...	...			251
Total number of houses and flats connected to sewers	...	...	...	...	5496
Percentage of houses and flats connected to sewers	...	...	...	...	69.87%
Percentage of houses and flats served by W.Cs. and draining to cesspits and/or septic tanks	...	...	...	...	18%
Percentage of houses having pail closets and draining to cesspits and/or septic tanks	...	...	...	...	1.14%
Percentage of houses draining to small sewage installations	...	...	...	...	3.2%
Percentage of houses and flats draining to sewers, small sewage installations, cesspits, and/or septic tanks					92.52%

Connections to the sewers at Broad Town and Hook were more or less finalised during the year. At Purton Stoke the response has been very disappointing especially in the village street section but at Ashton Keynes where at the end of the year the scheme was at least six months from completion applications to connect were pouring in. Progress was made towards the schemes for Marston Meysey and Latton, Tockenham and Clyffe Pypard and Lydiard Millicent. On these schemes being mounted there will then only remain isolated hamlets and backwaters unsewered.

Number of visits re drainage .. 240

Public Conveniences

Public conveniences are situated at Wootton Bassett and Cricklade and extension of this service to Purton and Lyneham is under consideration.

Cesspool Emptying

The service commenced in 1969 continued to operate satisfactorily. Private premises and council houses are serviced under this scheme at a nominal charge and some assistance is given at major sewage works when the need arises. The 1500 gallon Dennis tanker is operated by one man as a driver/loader. The organisation of the scheme is on a pre-payment basis and to date the scheme has been operated without the trouble of a serious backlog of work by arranging the servicing of Council properties on a planned rota and carrying out the servicing of private properties in the intervening periods but with time left in each week for private work with the idea that no-one should be kept waiting having paid the necessary fee.

No. of inspectors' visits re cesspool emptying	..	47
No. of private services carried out	.. ..	433
No. of local authority services carried out	.. ..	340

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Refuse collection is carried out on a kerbside collection basis with salvage of waste paper, rags, woollens, non-ferrous metals, light and heavy iron being collected at the same time in trailers. Large collections of unwanted materials from separate premises can be collected by special arrangement with the department free of charge. This extra service is provided to reduce to a minimum illegal dumping in the countryside. The service is operated by a fleet of three diesel powered vehicles. The staff of men totalling 10 including the foreman operate on an incentive bonus system which has operated successfully since 1966 and since that date there has been no increase in staff and no strikes in spite of the steady growth of the district usually at the average growth of 250 extra households a year. The added bin bonus accruing is shared equally by the men. Trade refuse from all but very large industrial undertakings is collected on the daily runs free of charge. Bank holidays are covered by double route working or on Saturdays but always in such a way that there is no back log to pick up afterwards.

Refuse disposal is by controlled tipping at Wootton Bassett and Cricklade. At Wootton Bassett the operation continues under shallow overtipping on Scotlands Tip and this method will continue as long as possible until April 1974 when refuse will go for incineration to the Swindon plant. Tipping at the Dance Tip, Cricklade ceased towards the end of the year and work commenced on site works to return same to the owner. In April 1972 tipping commenced at the old ex service sewage works at Blakehill to return the 2 acres to agricultural. Preparation work requested by the Planning Officer were completed before tipping by the strip method commenced.

Kerbside collection is still the order of the day. Pilot schemes on paper bag collection on grouped accommodation units, flats and houses were successful and this method is being extended on Council flat and house developments where long distance carrying is involved.

Number of visits re refuse collection and disposal	..	1,239
--	----	-------

Salvage

The figures set out in the tabulation table below show that there was a considerable fall in salvage receipts. There is some falling off in public interest in putting out waste paper but inroads have been made by dealers and charity organisations because now that the market has freshened the price to be obtained for this material is more attractive. With controlled tipping continuing for the life of this Council on dwindling sites it is still important to continue to operate this scheme to conserve tipping space.

Sale of Salvageable Waste Materials - Year ended 31.3.73

Waste Materials	Weight		Receipts	
	Tonnes	Kilos	£	p
Waste Paper	110	9	1066	47
Scrap Iron	24	996	45	38
Non-Ferrous Metals		340	11	12
Rags and Woollens	1	701	13	74
	137	46	1136	71

The sum of £124.80 was received from Wiltshire County Council in payment for the service rendered in emptying litter bins at main road lay-bys at Cricklade, Latton, Lyneham and Wootton Bassett, raising income from all sources to £1,261.51.

Number of visits re Salvage .. 84

Refuse and Salvage - Collection and Disposal Costs

(Financial Year ended 31st March, 1973)

Cost of refuse and salvage collections and disposal £30,384.26

Cost of refuse and salvage collections and disposal to
General Rate Fund £29,080.68

Net cost of refuse and salvage collections and disposal per
habitable house (including Air Ministry Houses and caravans) .. £3.60

Net cost of refuse and salvage collections and disposal

- per head of population	..	..	..	..	..	..	£1.17
- per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	..	..	£1,170.00
- per house per week	..	..	..	..	..	..	£0.07

Mileage of Refuse Vehicles -

No. 1 Vehicle (1880 MW) (First Taxed 4.12.61)	...	...	...	...	3,113
No. 2 Vehicle (668 BHR) (First Taxed 10.4.63)	...	...	...	...	7,348
No. 3 Vehicle (BMW 480C) (First Taxed 1.1.65)	...	...	...	...	7,338
No. 4 Vehicle (TMR 63J) (First Taxed 1.1.71)	...	...	...	...	9,735

Running Cost of Vehicles per Mile - less depreciation

	Per Mile	Total for Year
No. 1 Vehicle (1880 MW)	£0.29	£929.28
No. 2 Vehicle (668 BHR)	£0.15	£1,156.81
No. 3 Vehicle (BMW 480C)	£0.21	£1,587.79
No. 4 Vehicle (TMR 63J)	£0.12	£1,225.60

The running costs less depreciation of the Muir Hill tractor amounted to £1,676.22

Miles per Gallon -

No. 1 Vehicle (1880 MW)	9.31
No. 2 Vehicle (668 BHR)	7.06
No. 3 Vehicle (BMW 480C)	6.81
No. 4 Vehicle (TMR 63J)	6.12

The running costs less depreciation of the Cesspool Emptying Machine PHR 253H amounted to £555.34 and with a mileage of 7,770 represented on this basis a cost per mile of 7 pence and is good when one considers the size of the vehicle and that pumping time is included in this cost.

The rise in cost for refuse collection and disposal over this year was £3,467.68 and is much less than the previous year. The continuing increase can be attributed to three main factors namely:- wage rises, repairs to vehicles and a drop in salvage sales. The drop in salvage I feel can be attributed to a large extent to private competition and to a lesser extent to public apathy. The repairs bill has risen because of rising costs and to two major part replacement added to the policy of no new purchases in the short period running up to reorganisation. However, the costs are still low as far as the national average is concerned.

Moveable Dwellings

One licence was issued to station and use a moveable dwelling under Section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936. This is a regular annual licence and covers the housing of a showman and his family for at least nine months each year.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

Our requirements on chimney heights where plans submitted for prior approval were met in each case and the largest request was in respect of a proposed new factory complex where an 80' stack was proposed on a difficult urban type site. Calculating from the official code 40' extra was requested before granting prior approval and the new height of 120' was agreed. One Lancashire boiler on another factory is still hand fired on the excuse that they are tied by contract to a particular type of fuel, but there are contraventions from time to time which must lead to a prosecution at a later date unless the plant is mechanised to take other fuel. Contraventions on a Crown property continue and promises to modernise plant on this station have not been fulfilled to date. Work on inspections under the Clean Air (Emission of Dark Smoke) (Exemption) Regulations 1969 and consequent final warnings have borne fruit and no trouble has been experienced during the year from illegal burning on scrapyards and land.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960

Sites accommodating 12 or more caravans are situate as follows:-

	<u>No. of Caravans</u>
Latton Lido	20
Bradenstoke (Bungalow Caravan Site)	30
Bradenstoke (Jolly Trooper Site)	40
Lyneham (The White House)	14
Lyneham (Lillybrook Caravan Site)	73
Park Copse, Lydiard Tregoze	30
Wootton Bassett (Orchard Site)	37
Wootton Bassett (Rear of 156 High Street)	22

General surveillance has continued on all sites both large and small and both temporary and permanent. The general pattern on sites continues to improve with operators generally when the opportunity presents itself substituting old small caravans for the larger type of mobile home. This has been aided by the Council giving sympathetic consideration to young families in caravans, for rehousing for by and large, caravans are not suitable for growing families. The larger type of mobile seems to be very attractive to the older age groups with no children.

No County site has been provided in the north of the County to date for gypsies, but I understand a site has been acquired and plans are in course of preparation. For many years gypsies have lived on fixed licensed sites in the area and another site for 30 caravans has a planning permission and licence for 12 years. Work on this site to cover terms of the licence had not been carried out within the 12 month period allowed and a prosecution under Section 9 was pending at the end of the year under review. The site was sold in the condition period and was again advertised by the new owner as the year closed. It is to be hoped that the third purchaser will retrieve the situation and carry out the very necessary programme of works.

Gypsies and other Travellers

I can report once more that there was a reduction in the number of cases of itinerants being found on grass verges and other waste land and the national policy would seem to be having effect. Modern machinery in the agricultural field is reducing the number of jobs for hand picking of crops added to which the scrap trade these days throws up more opportunities of a much more profitable nature. The tendency therefore is to seek to settle close to built up areas where these opportunities exists. This leaves a diminishing minority of the purer gypsy strain who will wander at will and only with difficulty will be persuaded to use transit camps or seek education for their children.

No. of visits re Caravans .. 168

Milk and Dairies

Pasteurised Milk

Most retailers in the district are supplied with milk from a pasteurising plant within the Rural District, which is supervised by the County Public Health Inspector. In addition, two dairies at Cirencester supply milk within the district, one to a retailer, and they each do a retail round themselves. Milk retailers operating from premises outside the district obtain supplies from establishments at Burford, Chippenham and Swindon. It is pleasing to note that only one raw milk retailer remains in the district.

Sterilised Milk

There is still a demand for this milk. The milk is bottled and sterilised at plants in London and Bristol. Separated milk can now be obtained if required for persons on a fat-free diet, generally under doctors' orders.

Untreated Milk

As mentioned above only one farm bottling raw from its own production remains. Supervision of farm production is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, but there are occasions when due to our sampling various problems are dealt with by the public health inspectors, especially in the case of brucellosis and salmonellosis.

U.H.T. Milk

There are now 15 shops and one wholesaler licenced to sell U.H.T. milk in the district. The wholesale distributor covers several counties in his deliveries.

General

All vending machines for public use in this district have ceased operating since 1965 and we have received no enquiries during the year.

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959

Distributors on the Register	...	...	...	...	28
Dairies on the Register	...	...	...	...	9
Inspections made under the Regulations	...	...	...	...	9

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 (as amended)

Dealers' Licences authorising the use of the designation "Untreated"	...	...	...	...	2
Dealers' (Pre-packed Milk) Licences authorising the use of the designations -					
"Pasteurised" and "Sterilised"	...	...	...	...	8
"Untreated" only	...	...	...	...	1
"Sterilised" only	...	...	...	...	1
"Pasteurised" only	...	...	...	...	9
"Untreated", "Pasteurised" and "Sterilised"	...	...	...	...	1
"Pasteurised", "Sterilised" and "Ultra Heat Treated"	...	...	...	...	5
"Pasteurised" and "Ultra Heat Treated"	...	...	...	...	3
"Ultra Heat Treated" only	...	...	...	...	6
"Sterilised" and "Ultra Heat Treated"	...	...	...	...	1

Milk Sampling

This was carried out in accordance with the conditions of the Delegation Agreement with the Wiltshire County Council, with regular quarterly returns to the County Medical Officer of Health.

Milk Samples taken during 1972

<u>Statutory Tests</u>	<u>Passed</u>	<u>Failed</u>	<u>Void</u>
<u>Phosphatase and Methylene Blue</u>			
Pasteurised	63	8	7
Pasteurised (Homogenised)	12	1	-
Pasteurised (Channel Island)	25	6	2
<u>Methylene Blue only</u>			
Untreated	3	1	2
<u>Turbidity</u>			
Sterilised	21	-	-

The Phosphatase Test Checks the efficiency of pasteurisation.

The Turbidity Test Checks the efficiency of sterilisation.

The Methylene Blue Test Checks the keeping quality.

14 Ultra Heat Treated Samples satisfactory on Colony Count.

Biological and other Examinations

Six biological tests were carried out on untreated milk samples, one of which failed the methylene blue test.

Washed Bottles Examined

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Sterility Test	5	1

Notes on Test Failures

All failures were on methylene blue test and all failures were due to unsatisfactory storage after pasteurisation by dealers. Instances were found where milk had been taken out on round one day, brought back to storage and out again the following day giving varying temperatures. I am pleased to report that all dairies supplying this area are now coding their milk, which makes tracing possible and has done much to ease the problem.

Ice Cream

No ice cream is manufactured in the district now although there are wholesalers' stores of ice cream in the district registered and under surveillance. Nine samples were taken during the year, all of which were grade I.

Meat

In contrast to the fall in kill last year there was a slight increase in kill, the increase being noticeable in all types except calves where there was again a substantial fall. The increase in pigs was attributable, no doubt, to panic slaughtering during the outbreak of swine vesicular disease where producers decided on killing all reasonable animals instead of risking loss and subsequent closing of their piggeries. The amount of condemned meat remained on the same sort of average. One condemnation led to a trade description prosecution where my evidence was the only expert technical opinion present to prove the case.

In addition to the number of visits to slaughterhouses as given below, all Christmas poultry was checked prior to the festive season in shops in the district. No meat was received during the year on imported food consignments.

Number of visits and inspections .. 1,152

Animals Killed and Carcases Examined

	Cattle other than cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Total
No. of animals killed	681	28	6,829	5,410	10,738	23,686
No. of carcases examined	681	28	6,829	5,410	10,738	23,686

Condemned Meat

	Cattle other than cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Total
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses	-	1	52	19	18	90
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	127	5	146	947	396	1,621
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	18.36	21.43	2.90	17.86	3.86	7.22
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	31	-	31
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	0.53	-	0.01
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-	3
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Condemned for all diseases</u>						
Whole carcasses	-	1	52	19	18	90
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	130	5	146	978	396	1,655
Total number of animals affected with disease	130	6	198	997	414	1,745
Percentage of the number inspected which were affected with disease	19.02	21.43	2.90	18.43	3.86	7.37

Weights of Condemned Meat

	Condemned in slaughterhouses				Condemned in shops			
	T	c	q	lbs	T	c	q	lbs
Beef	-	9	0	15	-	9	1	14
Veal	1	10	3	13	-	-	-	-
Bacon and Pork	1	7	0	5	-	6	0	3
Mutton and Lamb	-	6	2	18	-	1	2	9
Offal	2	3	3	9	-	-	2	0
	5	17	2	4	-	17	1	26

Condemned in Depots

T	c	q	lbs
-	1	0	18 of mutton pieces

	Condemned for Tuberculosis				Condemned for diseases other than Tuberculosis			
	T	c	q	lbs	T	c	q	lbs
Beef	-	-	-	-	-	9	0	15
Veal	-	-	-	-	1	10	3	13
Bacon and Pork	-	2	1	22	1	4	2	11
Mutton and Lamb	-	-	-	-	-	6	2	18
Offal	-	-	-	-	2	3	3	9
	-	2	1	22	5	15	0	10
Percentage of the total of condemned meat	2.08				97.98			

Year	Number of calves killed	Number of tubercular calves	Percentage of Calves affected with Tuberculosis
1965	11,330	Nil	Nil
1966	16,960	Nil	Nil
1967	20,425	Nil	Nil
1968	15,708	Nil	Nil
1969	13,886	Nil	Nil
1970	13,289	Nil	Nil
1971	9,419	Nil	Nil
1972	6,829	Nil	Nil

Slaughter of Animals Act 1958

Unconditional licences to slaughter or stun animals in a slaughterhouse were issued to 11 applicants. Conditional licences allowing 4 applicants to slaughter or stun animals only under supervision of an unconditional licensed slaughterman were issued.

Other Foods

The following amounts of unsound food were voluntarily surrendered by shopkeepers and wholesal warehousemen and were destroyed:-

1 cwts. 2 qrt. 21 lbs. Miscellaneous Tinned Foods (Blown, damaged and rusty tins)
19 cwts. 0 qrt. 6 lbs. Miscellaneous Frozen Foods (Refrigerator Breakdowns)
14 lbs. Patna Rice

Food Premises

The following are the details of the number of food premises registered as at 31st December, 1972:-

Manufacture and/or Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	70
Manufacture and Sale of Sausages, Pickled, Pressed or Preserved				
Meat	...	...	...	15
Purpose of Fish Frying	...	...	...	4
				<hr/>
				89
				<hr/>

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

It was possible to maintain a good surveillance of all types of food premises during the year, 404 check inspections being made. Warnings were given in a number of cases but no court action was necessary to achieve compliance with the regulations. Notes on types of premises to be found in the district follow giving details of alterations.

Bakehouses

The year ended with bakehouses in use down to five. One bakehouse had a new quarry tile floor laid and in another an extractor fan over the oven door was installed.

Butchers

There are 12 retail shops and 2 supermarkets, one supermarket giving up fresh meat sales during the year. One retail shop was replaced by a new one and another had a cutting room extension with refrigerators taken inside and another received a set of new toilets.

Cafes

There are now 12 cafes and one restaurant in the district apart from meals at public houses which is an ever increasing trade.

Canteens

These are all well maintained throughout the district and provide an excellent service to the workers concerned.

Fish Frying

There are four fish frying establishments in the district and during the year after long negotiations one of these was the subject of a complete rebuild and enlargement. This leaves one old type premise. One mobile is based in this district and one comes in from outside.

Greengrocers

Generally this trade is operated well with plenty of local produce in the area.

Grocers

The standard remains high, competition in this trade forcing every trader to be on his toes.

Licenced Premises

There was one large scale modernisation of a working man's club during the year.

Wholesale Ice Cream Depots

There are two storage depots in the district, one run by a national company for distrubution over a large area and one servicing mobiles and local trade.

Wholesale Meat Depots

One is a cold storage depot on a trading estate and one is run by a wholesale butchery firm. Imported meat consignments are infrequent.

Mobile Shops

These are kept under constant surveillance but changes in their rounds and the hours worked make for difficulties in control.

Food Vans

Generally speaking these are well operated, but the tendency now is for the vanmen to become the operators of the business, and this can create difficulties in administration regarding division of responsibilities.

School Kitchens

Lectures are given annually to the staff of school kitchens and the cooking depot by the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspectors. Standards are good and no trouble was experienced with school meals during the year. The district is fortunate in the type of persons employed in these kitchens, who show real interest in their task.

The following list details the various types of food premises within the district at the end of the year together with a tabulation of the position to date with regard to requirements under Regulations 16 and 19:-

	No. of Premises	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. where Reg. 19 applies	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Bakehouses	5	4	5	4
Butchers	14	13	14	13
Cafes, Restaurants & Hotels	18	18	18	18
Canteens	4	4	4	4
Confectioners	13	13	13	13
Cold Storage Depots	2	1	1	1
Fishmongers/Grocers	1	1	1	1
Fishmongers & Fish Fryers	5	5	5	5
Greengrocers	4	4	4	4
Grocers	50	50	50	50
Halls & Social Centres	13	12	11	11
Ice Cream Depots	2	2	2	2
Institutions and Homes	5	5	5	5
Licensed Premises (including Clubs)	46	44	46	46
School Kitchens	6	6	6	6
Schools where meals are served	11	8	11	*8
Wholesale Meat Depot	1	1	1	1
	<u>200</u>	<u>191</u>	<u>197</u>	<u>192</u>

*N.B. At three schools all equipment and crockery is returned to central depot and at another cutlery is returned.

Food Poisoning

53 faecal specimens were taken during the year. 55 visits were made in connection with food poisoning or suspected food poisoning. Of these faecal specimens 8 were reported positive Salmonella.

THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957

No. of premises licensed by the Authority .. 4

- (a) Large - (100 pigs or 500 poultry or over) -
- (b) Medium - (20-100 pigs or 100-500 poultry) 1
- (c) small - (4-20 pigs or 50-100 poultry) .. 3

Types of boiling plants used -

- (1) Electric or gas .. 1
- (2) Coal or wood .. 3

None of the plants boils waste for resale, all cooked materials being used for animals on the premises.

No. of visits re Waste Foods Order .. 14

SHOPS ACT 1950

No action was necessary under this Act.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

The following are the various types of premises registered under the Act:-

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Brickworks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Builders and Carpenters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cabinet Works...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Caravan Refrigerator assembly	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coffin Board Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Concrete Block Manufactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cycle Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dental Products Manufactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Electrical Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Engineering Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Gas Holders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Glove Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Grass Drying Plants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Joinery Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Local Authority Salvage Depot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Local Authority Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Machinery Assembly (Agricultural)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Milk Products Manufactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Motor Repair Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Packing Case Manufactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rope Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sawmills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sausage Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tarpaulin Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vehicle Dismantlers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Warehouses (Cold Store)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Watch Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Waterworks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Waste Paper Balers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Part I of the Act

INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions
as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		In- spections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	77	38	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	77	38	-	-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	found	remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) insufficient					
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	3	-	-	-

Nature of work	Section 133		Section 134			
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing) Making apparel) etc.) Cleaning) and) Washing	1					
Household linen						
Lace, lace curtains and nets						
Curtains and furniture hangings						
Furniture and upholstery						
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles						
Fur pulling						
Iron and steel cable and chains						
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels						
Cart gear						
locks, latches and keys						
Umbrellas etc.						
Artificial flowers						
Nets, other than wire nets						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls						
Paper bags						
The making of boxes and other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding etc. of buttons etc.						
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates and sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas stockings etc.						
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
Total	1					

Outworkers

This is a reducing activity as far as this district is concerned highlighted by the fact that we have now but one outworker employed in the district and in this case by a firm operating outside the district.

WATER SUPPLIES

In April 1962 all water undertakings, mains and storage facilities came under the control of the Swindon Corporation in accordance with Government policy. None of the water from the four sources has plumbo-solvent action and all water is chlorinated before passing into the mains.

Sources

Water for public supply is obtained from four sources as follows:-

Ashton Keynes boreholes, an adit into the chalk at Clyffe Pypard, a well at Broad Town and a certain amount from the main which carries the water from Latton borehole to Swindon. The Latton boreholes sited in this district provides a big percentage of the water used by Swindon. This part of North Wiltshire is most fortunate in having these large underground supplies.

Storage

Water storage facilities in the district are as follows:-

	<u>Gallons</u>
Hook Reservoirs	1,000,000
Cricklade reservoir	60,000
Clyffe Pypard underground tanks	35,000
Bradenstoke elevated tank	12,000
Broad Town underground tank	10,000
	<hr/>
	1,117,000
	<hr/>

Distribution

The two reservoirs at Flaxlands by the new 16" main provided in 1971 and the 12" main. The 10" Ashton Keynes/Flaxlands main is now fed by gravity only from Flaxlands Reservoir, thus eliminating bursts previously caused by pumping surge. Reconstruction work at Ashton Keynes Pumping Station is now at an advanced stage. Higher capacity pumping plant has been installed together with new electrical control gear. It is proposed to install a 300 kw Diesel Alternator set in the near future to provide electric power for standby and emergency purposes. The Broad Town/Clyffe Pypard mainlaying scheme has been completed and all occupied properties in Broad Town have been connected. At Clyffe Pypard 11 out of 17 properties have been connected to the new system. The well at Broad Town comes out of use. In addition to the Coxstalls elevated tank, the one at Ashton Keynes has now been dispensed with and in due course the Coxstalls tank will be removed. Cricklade reservoir, however, remains in use. An 8" main, reducing to 6", supplies water from Hook as far as Wootton Bassett and also a 9" main from Hook supplies Wootton Bassett thence by a 6" main to Tockenham and Lyneham. A new 10" main laid in 1964 goes from Flaxlands to the R.A.F. Station at Lyneham. From a tank on the Aerodrome, water is pumped to the Bradenstoke tank. Parts of Clyffe Pypard are supplied from the Clyffe Pypard heading in the chalk downs.

Water Sampling

Number of water samples taken:-

Public supplies	14
Private supplies	13
	<hr/>
	27
	<hr/>

Results of Water Analyses

	Bacteriological			
	Unsatis- factory	Sus- picious	Satis- factory	Excel- lent
Taken from public supplies at				
Ashton Keynes	-	1	-	10
Lydiard Millicent	-	-	-	1
Purton	-	-	-	2
	-	1	-	13
Taken from private supplies in the parishes of				
Ashton Keynes	-	1	-	6
Latton	1	-	-	-
Lyneham	2	-	-	1
Marston Meysey	1	1	-	-
	4	2	-	7

Water Supply Services Serving the Rural District of Cricklade and Wootton Bassett

Bacteriological Analyses Made in 1972

	S o u r c e				
	Latton		Ashton Keynes	Broad Town	Clyffe Pypard
	Raw	Final	Final	Final	Final
Total Number of Samples	45	45	44	44	45
Samples in which Coliforms were absent in 100 ml.					
No.	45	45	44	44	45
Percentage:	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Samples in which E. Coli Type 1 were absent in 100 ml.					
No.	45	45	44	44	45
Percentage:	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

N.B. At Ashton Keynes, Broad Town and Clyffe Pypard the Chlorination arrangements are such that raw water samples could not be taken.

CHEMICAL & MINERAL EXAMINATION OF FINAL WATER

Results in Parts per Million (p.p.m.)

Source	Date of Sample 1972	Chlorides	Non-Carbonate Hardness	Total Hardness	Nitrate Nitrogen	Nitrite Nitrogen	Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Albuminoid Nitrogen	Oxygen absorbed	Fluoride (where recorded)
Wish-ton Keynes	19 Jan. 2 Aug.	19 18	55 50	295 290	1.7 1.3	absent absent	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.20 0.05	0.35 0.35
Broad Town	19 Jan. 2 Aug.	16 16	60 60	350 395	1.8 2.0	absent absent	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.10 0.20	0.15 0.15
Clyffe Py-pard	19 Jan. 2 Aug.	13 13	45 50	275 275	1.7 1.9	absent absent	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.15 0.11
Lutton	19 Jan. 2 Aug.	24 27	50 40	315 305	1.6 0.8	absent absent	0.03 0.03	0.00 0.00	0.20 0.10	0.65 0.75

Houses supplied from Public Water Mains

Parish	Houses and Flats with water supplied indoors	Houses and Flats with water from taps on property but outdoors	Houses and Flats supplied from standpipe outside curtilage
Ashton Keynes	360	3	-
Braydon	25	-	-
Broad Town	163	1	-
Clyffe Pypard	105	-	-
Cricklade	1,050	-	-
Latton	133	-	-
Leigh	107	-	-
Lydiard Millicent	423	16	1
Lydiard Tregoze	149	-	-
Lyneham	1,271	11	-
Marston Meysey	56	-	-
Purton	1,280	2	-
Tockenham	80	-	-
Wootton Bassett	2,509	5	-
TOTALS	7,711	38	1

Houses supplied from Private Water Mains

Parish	Houses and Flats with water supplied indoors	Houses and Flats with water from taps on property but outdoors	Houses and Flats supplied from standpipes outside curtilage
Broad Town	1	-	-
Clyffe Pypard	11	-	-
Latton	8	-	-
Lydiard Tregoze	15	-	-
Lyneham	-	1	-
Marston Meysey	13	-	-
TOTALS	48	1	-

Total Number of Houses supplied from Water Mains

	Public Mains	Private Mains	Public & Private Mains
Into Premises	7,711	48	7,759
Onto Premises by outside tap	38	1	39
Standpipes outside curtilage	1	-	1

Percentage of Houses and Flats supplied from Water Mains

	Public Water Mains	Private Water Mains	Total houses on Mains of all types
Into Premises	98.39%	0.70%	99.0%
Onto Premises by outside tap	0.48%	0.01%	4.97%
Standpipes outside curtilage	0.1%	-	-

Houses supplied from Private Wells, Streams and Springs

Parish	Well	Well with Pump	From Well into House	Stream	Spring
Ashton Keynes	1	1	5	-	-
Broad Town	1	-	4	1	1
Clyffe Pypard	-	-	-	-	-
Cricklade	1	-	-	-	-
Latton	1	-	-	-	-
Lydiard Millicent	2	-	-	-	-
Lydiard Tregoze	1	-	3	-	-
Lynham	-	-	2	-	1
Marston Meysey	-	-	2	-	-
Purton	4	2	1	-	-
Wootton Bassett	-	2	2	-	-
TOTALS	11	5	19	1	2

No. of visits re Water Supplies .. Public - 2 Private - 17

THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

The year was highlighted by the scheme organised in conjunction with the Ministry for the block baiting within a one month period of all agriculture holdings in the area of the district south of the motorway covering six of the fourteen parishes in the rural district. We are indebted to the Ministry for the assistance given by their officers for this pilot project which had good effect and again provided comfort in that no poison resistance was found over this wide area.

Later in the year agricultural holdings were all visited north of the motorway, given advice, and bait was offered at a cheap rate.

The Pest Control Officer in addition carries out the major proportion of the insect disinfection and fly control and does all the feral pigeon control work, which is now only a minor problem in urban type areas of the district.

A record of the year's work on rodent control is set out hereunder, from which it will be seen that all notified complaints receive attention and this is supported by a continuing planned coverage of the district by survey.

	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural	
No. of properties inspected					
(a) after notification	-	107	31	25	163
(b) survey	186	508	169	221	1,084
(c) otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	212	78	381	35	706
Total premises inspected	398	693	581	281	1,953
No. of properties infested					
by - rats	8	133	36	37	214
- mice	5	47	6	1	59
% of the properties inspected which were infested					
- rats	2.01%	19.9%	6.2%	12.4%	10.9%
- mice	1.3%	6.7%	1.0%	0.3%	3.02%
No. of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	13	180	42	38	273
Total number of treatments (including re-treatments of the same properties) carried out during the year	14	191	48	50	303

Total number of visits to individual properties on treatment and survey .. 3,122

LITTER ACT 1958

The scheme which has been operating for over four years whereby bulky items of unwanted materials and rubbish are removed from households other than on normal house refuse collection by special arrangement with the occupiers at no charge to them continues. This additional service is given as the Council's main attack against illegal dumping in ditches, hedgerows and open land and the fact that we have a stand-by vehicle in the refuse vehicle pool makes this possible. This vehicle is also used several times a year to clear up ditches and land littered by 'fly' tipping. With this service and the good supply of litter bins all over the district the area is kept in a fair condition from this respect, but where the County Council still use a man for hand road sweeping it is abundantly clear that this old method still provides the best answer for keeping busy shopping streets in a clean condition. With all this the officers are still dismayed by the wanton damage created by vandals who seem to delight in attacking any new receptacle that is placed out by the Local Authority in an attempt to reduce the problem.

In spite of all this activity there are still problems. From observation one can see that often the site of a litter bin becomes a black spot because a certain percentage of people throw their litter near rather than in the bin. Householders whose gardens are almost total lawn area dump the grass mowings in any spot they can find but their own, sometimes the best gardener being the worst ditch litter lout. Cars with boots provide the answer for many people, providing a twilight trip into the country to dump an unwanted collection of articles which they hope they will not see next day in daylight. The warnings and small number of prosecutions that can be legally placed seem to do little to stem the tide or, indeed, make such people think. Visits abroad provide the proof that we are one of the untidiest of the European nations in spite of all the efforts of some to make us otherwise.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967 & THE REMOVAL & DISPOSAL OF VEHICLES REGULATIONS 1968

The department has the responsibility for the operation of the above Act and Regulations and as will be seen from the total number of visits on this work it makes demands on time and travelling to achieve the successful results that can be reported. This work commenced late in 1965 before the Act and since that date 448 vehicles have been removed, an average of 64 a year and the annual average figure is now rising rather than reducing, evidenced by the fact that this year of 115 vehicles found abandoned 90 were removed. This, no doubt, is due to the opening of the M4 motorway at the end of 1971 and in the figure of 90 for the year were 24 abandoned in this district on the motorway 14 of which were removed after request by the owners and 10 were sold by the department.

The vehicle pound provided by the Council at the depot is now also taking vehicles abandoned on our section of the up and down lanes of the motorway after being in the motorway pounds and then not being claimed, for eventual disposal if not claimed. In cases where it is known that they will not be claimed our scrapyards merchants remove free of charge and in addition pay a nominal agreed payment for the vehicle in question. They also deal with vehicles abandoned on private land where agreement to remove has been reached. For this method to operate the authority must be tolerant of the presence of a small number of suitably run scrapyards in focal points of their district where strict regular baling and clearance is operated to the steelworks.

The environment and amenities of this beautiful area are richly prized and this wastage of the modern motor car age must be firmly and efficiently monitored and administered without question.

Number of visits re abandoned vehicles .. 394

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

A notation of all defects or omissions discovered on general inspections since this work was commenced in 1964 is set out in classifications and gives a useful guide to matters which have been the subject of informal notices.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>No. of Premises Affected</u>
1. Mess Rooms or Clothing Cupboards	32
2. Thermometers required	78
3. Insufficient light	18
4. Insufficient ventilation	60
5. Machines	30
6. Abstract missing	63
7. Sanitary conveniences	40
8. Space	12
9. First aid boxes	80
10. Defective staircases, floors and passages	40
11. Inadequate washing facilities	48
12. No drinking water facilities	8
13. Repairs and decorations	68

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963 (CONT'D)

One accident was reported and an inspector from this department made the necessary enquiries and took appropriate action.

PETROLEUM ACT AND REGULATIONS

There was no change in amounts of petroleum stored during the year. Five changes of ownership took place during 1972.

Number of licences issued to store petroleum	..	..	..	..	..	61
Number of licences issued to store petroleum and cellulose	..	..	..	..	..	1
Number of licences issued to store petroleum and carbide	..	..	..	..	..	0
Number of licences issued to store cellulose	..	..	..	..	..	2
Number of licences issued to store carbide	..	..	..	..	..	0
Number of inspections of installations and storeplaces	..	..	..	..	..	20

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964

Number of applicants registered at the end of the year:-

Dealers with a store in the district	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Dealers residing in this district but not using a store	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Travellers with no fixed abode and no store, but dealing in metal when passing through the district	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Number of visits and inspections in connection with the Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	62

All registrations as they occur are notified to the Chief Constable of the County.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS

No action was necessary under this Act during the year.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT 1956

Since the original survey under the Act there have been no complaints, but advice is given when plans are deposited if it appears that there will be any problem.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

At the end of the year 3 establishments were registered. All premises have been maintained satisfactorily during the year.

MISCELLANEOUS VISITS

In the interest of economy on mileage the department makes calls for internal departments from time to time and there are always a few messages to the office, which on inspection reveal that the matters are not the concern of the department.

TABULAR SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Water Supplies - Public	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
- Private	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	247
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Cesspool Emptying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	168
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	987
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	252
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,122
Feral Pigeons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Clean Air Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	138
Waste Foods Order	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Abandoned Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	394
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	325
River Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Dealers in Old Metals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Animal Boarding Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Litter Bins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Housing - Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
- Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	221
- Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	153
- Rent Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
- Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	339
Council Houses - re complaints	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	102
- re applications	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	647
- other visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,112
- grouped accommodation Surveillance	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	719
Council garages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	171
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Meat Inspection - Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,137
- Shops & Other Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Imported Food Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Food Hygiene Regulations -											
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Childrens Homes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Cooking Depot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fishmongers and Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
School Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Mobile Shops & Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Old People's Homes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Parish Halls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dairies Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Food Poisoning Enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Food and Drugs Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Sampling - Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
- Bottle Rinses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
- Caustic Solutions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
- Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
- Food and Drugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
- Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
- Visits to Laboratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Petroleum Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Flooding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20

